

State of Wisconsin **Department of Health and Family Services**

Jim Doyle, Governor Helene Nelson, Secretary

Monday, January 23, 2006 Carla Vigue, Communications Officer, (608) 266-5862

Statement of Secretary of the Department of Health and Family Services Helene Nelson on Health Care Data Collection

Today, Helene Nelson, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, made the following statement regarding Assembly Bill 907, the health care transparency bill:

"I am very pleased with the bi-partisan support for a health care transparency bill which will replace the ineffective Physician Office Visit Data system. This bill is the product of several discussions with Rep. Underheim, Rep. Wasserman, various stakeholders and the state Departments of Heath and Family Services and Employee Trust Funds, the two largest purchasers of health care in the state.

"Governor Doyle recommended repealing the Physician Office Visit Data (POVD) system in the last state budget. The legislature is following the Governor's lead in creating a quality health care data collection system that will allow consumers and other health care purchasers make smart and economical health care choices."